REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the final office action dated September 10, 2009. This response is

accompanied by a request for a one-month extension of time and the associated fee.

Accordingly, please consider this response as timely filed.

In this response, the applicant has not added any claims. Accordingly, no claim fees are

applicable.

In the Office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as

being anticipated by US5,902,004 (Waltz et al). The Examined indicated that the

applicant's arguments were not persuasive because they were more limiting than the

claims. The Examiner stated further that the applicant is correct in the arguments but for

the use of the phraseology 'for' and 'can be' in the claims, which the Examiner indicated

fail to positively recite the claimed invention. Thus, the Examiner indicated that the

claims would be patentable over Waltz et al if the claim limitations were positively

recited. The applicant has amended claim 1 to positively recite all the limitations

contained therein. The applicant submits that this amendment to claim addresses the

Examiner's concern, and that claim 1 is thus patentable over the cited art.

The applicant submits that claims 2-9 are patentable at least by way of their dependency

on claim 1.

The applicant has made amendments to several of the claims to remove the terms 'it' and

'itself'.

The applicant submits that the amendment to claim 1 does not necessitate the filing of a

Request for Continued Examination, as it is made in accordance with the remarks made

by the Examiner in the office action so as to put the application in condition for

5

Appl. No. 10/561,333 Amdt. Dated January 11, 2010 Reply to Office Action of March 27, 2009

allowance. However, this response is nonetheless accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination.

The applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued.

Dated: January 11, 2010

Respectfully,

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